

March 23, 2016
8:35 a.m.
Newport, Oregon

The Parks and Recreation Committee of the City of Newport met on the above date in the Newport Recreation Center.

Members present were Ed Simon, Sandra Surber, Nancy Steinberg, Fred Springsteen, Jennie Scarborough, Geri Kern, Paul Stangeland, Jeff Schrantz and Mark Saelens; City Council Liaison. Absent: Karen Smith, Kevin Greenwood.

Staff/Guests attending were as follows: Parks and Recreation Director Jim Protiva.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - FEBRUARY 24, 2016

MOTION was made by Simon, seconded by Springsteen, to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2016 meeting. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

Public Comment

None.

Director's Report

Protiva noted that cement was being poured on the new pool project, and passed out the Department Spring Activity Guide.

Sub-Committee Comments

Municipal Pool: Protiva noted that the pool project was moving along smoothly, with a big cement pour currently underway. Steinberg added that she had been contacted by a citizen about what chemicals would be used in the new pool. Protiva explained that we would be using liquid chlorine which reacts very quickly to changes in the use of the pool.

Tree City USA: Steinberg informed the Committee that she had confirmed that the City's application for renewal of a Tree City USA status is approved. Steinberg added that she would be working on a project to make the City eligible for the "Growth Award" next year. After discussing some ideas with Protiva and Saelens, they decided a "Tree" newsletter would work, so she is drafting the first quarterly newsletter to be distributed through City utility bills. Simons mentioned that the memorial tree project might work as a way to earn more points for the Growth Award.

Rec. Center, Programming, Sports, Events: Protiva mentioned that it was Spring Break for the local kids, so our School's Out program was hosting kids throughout the week. Protiva added that basketball was just about wrapped up, and planning was underway for the Coast Hills Classic Bike Race.

Foundation: Springsteen said that he had been researching who engraved the bricks at the hospital. He talked to Stephanie at True Cut Engraving who indicated she is capable of engraving bricks which they might use for a fundraiser through the Foundation. Springsteen provided a price list, noting that she was doing some research on the possibility of engraving tiles. Protiva noted that the bricks or tiles might go in the vestibule area, along with plaques that would be placed. Protiva mentioned that the Foundation had received \$1000 from Oregon State Credit Union.

Parks, Trails & Forests: Simon handed out the second draft of the bike patrol guidelines for the Committee to review. Simon noted that there would be training associated with the people volunteering for the group. Protiva noted that he rode mountain bikes around the area and found plenty of areas that weren't too tough to ride. Surber asked Simon if there was going to be a tip-line for people to call if they saw garbage or something else to report. Simon said he liked the idea and would look into it.

Goals/Sub-Committees: Steinberg noted that the Committee goals for the upcoming year were on back of the agenda and thought the Committee should discuss the structure of the current sub-committees to see if they should change or maintain the way they are addressed and how much involvement the Committee wants to have with these issues. Steinberg stated that along with that, she would like to see what, if anything, the Committee can do to assist in reaching the Department goals. Steinberg mentioned that Simon had brought up the idea of having one Committee member be a liaison to a particular sub-committee. Simon said he thought it would be a positive thing and somewhere for the public to go when they had a question, rather than just always going to Protiva. Protiva stated that there were many ways for the Committee to be involved with the current and future goals of the Department. Simon mentioned that it might be wise to have a document available on important issues or project for Committee members to use when they are asked questions about them. The Committee decided they would like written bulletins on the pool project and the pump track. Steinberg stated that she had tried to find out what the City expects from the Committee, but there was nothing solid that she could find. Saelens noted that one of the City Manager's goals is to review how various City Committees operate and re-structure them, if needed. Protiva stated that he had met with the City Manager regarding Steinberg's questions about the role of the Parks and Recreation Committee, and the City Manager said that he could meet with Steinberg and Protiva to discuss the issue. Springsteen mentioned that when McConnell was Mayor, one of his visions was to run the Parks and Recreation Department and Committee like a business rather than a government agency. He added that the current discussion reminded him of that vision and the Committee might want to write up four or five goals to take to wherever their current goals came from. Protiva noted that the Committee had discussed the goals and approved them. Steinberg stated that if someone had a particular interest in one of the current goals, they should speak with Protiva about what they could do to assist the Department. She also noted that social media was a good way to get the word out of things the Department were promoting or working on, and if anyone had skills in grant writing, that could be a huge help to the Foundation. Steinberg said they should leave the sub-committees as they are for the time being and by the next meeting, she would meet with the City Manager and have a draft of the Committee's job description, and also a draft of the talking points previously mentioned.

Committee Comments

Saelens mentioned that he had spoken out at the Council meeting regarding the enforcement of the leash law in Newport, and also about drivers rolling out 10 feet past the stop sign, endangering bike riders and pedestrians.

Develop Next Agenda

Continue discussion of sub-committees and the role of the Committee.

Meeting Schedule

The next meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2016.

Adjournment

Adjournment - Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.